

From: Patrick McDonald
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/20/01 2:52pm
Subject: Keep them on their toes

To whom this may concern,

I just can't believe you're ready to let Microsoft off the hook so easily, and so conveniently for the company. This settlement really looks like it was politically motivated. Whether it was or wasn't, I honestly can't say, of course. But it sure looks like Microsoft swallowed the DoJ whole, and quite easily, too. As far as the DoJ is concerned, it's game over. You loose. No amount of press release blab can hide that conspicuous fact. Or the fact that M\$ repeatedly and demonstrably lied to you in court, which is uncomfortably close to laughing at you.

Soon enough, Microsoft will get back to doing what it does best, i.e. being a brutal and abusive monopolist. And expect them to be back at it with a vengeance. For M\$ has just been reminded that strangling competitors using a combination of legal and illegal means is a hugely worthwhile and profitable enterprise that far outweighs the relatively modest price to be paid.

In the name of many consumers from the US and abroad, who mistakenly thought that the DoJ (if anything) might force Microshaft to play by the rules... thanks a lot. You really let us down.

Pat McDonald